

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing that a panel previously displayed on a graphical user interface is displayed again, the method comprising:

displaying a selected panel on a graphical user interface;

receiving, while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel, the user-selectable command thereafter being displayed in a menu; and

receiving a second user input upon a first selection of the user-selectable command, wherein the user-selectable command ceases to be displayed in the menu upon receipt of the second user input.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the menu is not continuously displayed on the graphical user interface, and wherein a user can cause the menu to be displayed by selecting an input control for the menu.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the user-selectable command ceasing to be displayed in the menu is

noticeable to the user at a first time the menu is displayed after the second user input is received.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected panel belongs to an application program, and wherein the application program is being executed when the first user input is received and thereafter closed before the second user input is received.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of user-selectable commands is displayed in the menu.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands ceases to be displayed in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than user deletion.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands does not cease to be displayed in the menu upon user selection.

9. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, cause a processor to perform operations comprising:

display a selected panel on a graphical user interface;

receive, while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel, the user-selectable command thereafter being displayed in a menu; and

receive a second user input upon a first selection of the user-selectable command, wherein the user-selectable command ceases to be displayed in the menu upon receipt of the second user input.

10. The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise:

display a plurality of user-selectable commands in the menu.

11. The computer program product of claim 10, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands

are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

12. The computer program product of claim 10, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands ceases to be displayed in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than user deletion.

13. The computer program product of claim 10, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands does not cease to be displayed in the menu upon user selection.

14. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, generate on a display device a graphical user interface on which a previously displayed panel can again be displayed, the graphical user interface comprising:

a panel display area wherein a selected panel is displayed;

an input control that creates a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel; and

a menu in which at least one user-selectable command created using the input control is displayed, wherein a created user-selectable command ceases to be displayed in the menu upon a first selection of the created user-selectable command.

15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein a plurality of user-selectable commands is displayed in the menu.

16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

17. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands ceases to be displayed in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than user deletion.

18. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands does not cease to be displayed in from the menu upon user selection.

19. A method of providing that a panel previously displayed on a graphical user interface can be displayed again, the method comprising:

displaying a selected panel on a graphical user interface;

receiving, while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel, the user-selectable command thereafter being displayed in a menu; and

ceasing to display the user-selectable command in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than a user deleting the user-selectable command.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the menu is not continuously displayed on the graphical user interface, and wherein the user can cause the menu to be displayed by selecting an input control for the menu.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the user-selectable command ceasing to be displayed in the menu is noticeable to the user at a first time the menu is displayed after the second user input is received.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the selected panel belongs to an application program, and wherein the application program is being executed when the first user input is received and thereafter closed before the second user input is received.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein a plurality of user-selectable commands is displayed in the menu.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands does not cease to be displayed in the menu upon user selection.

26. The method of claim 19, wherein the predetermined event is one selected from the group consisting of: user selection of the user-selectable command, passage of a predetermined amount of time, an application program to which the selected panel belongs being closed, a computer system to which the graphical user interface belongs being

shut down, a predetermined number of user-selectable commands being included in the menu after the user-selectable command is created; and combinations thereof.

27. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, cause a processor to perform operations comprising:

display a selected panel on a graphical user interface;

receive, while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel, the user-selectable command thereafter being displayed in a menu; and

cease to display the user-selectable command in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than a user deleting the user-selectable command.

28. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the operations further comprise:

display a plurality of user-selectable commands in the menu.

29. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

30. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands does not cease to be displayed in the menu upon user selection.

31. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the predetermined event is one selected from the group consisting of: user selection of the user-selectable command, passage of a predetermined amount of time, an application program to which the selected panel belongs being closed, a computer system to which the graphical user interface belongs being shut down, a predetermined number of user-selectable commands being included in the menu after the user-selectable command is created; and combinations thereof.

32. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, generate on a

display device a graphical user interface on which a previously displayed panel can again be displayed, the graphical user interface comprising:

- a panel display area wherein a selected panel is displayed;

- an input control that creates a user-selectable command for displaying the selected panel; and

- a menu in which at least one user-selectable command created using the input control is displayed, wherein a created user-selectable command ceases to be displayed in the menu upon occurrence of a predetermined event other than a user deleting the created user-selectable command.

33. The computer program product of claim 32, wherein a plurality of user-selectable commands is displayed in the menu.

34. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein at least two of the plurality of user-selectable commands are associated with panels that belong to different application programs.

35. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands

does not cease to be displayed in the menu upon user selection.

36. The computer program product of claim 32, wherein the predetermined event is one selected from the group consisting of: user selection of the user-selectable command, passage of a predetermined amount of time, an application program to which the selected panel belongs being closed, a computer system to which the graphical user interface belongs being shut down, a predetermined number of user-selectable commands being included in the menu after the user-selectable command is created; and combinations thereof.